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Wednesday, December 5, 2012



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## Cesar Millan helps fans address CANINE COMPLEXITY

The Dog Whisperer host Cesar Millan takes the stage at the Halifax Metro Centre on Tuesday night. The popular dog trainer is on his Trust Your Instincts Tour, and Halifax was the last Canadian stop. JEFF HARPER/METRO

# Final plans for Nova Centre to be unveiled

**Joe Ramia.** Developer says design will reflect what Nova Scotians want

The culmination of 11 public consultations will be showcased Wednesday evening when the final design for Halifax's proposed convention centre will be unveiled.

Developer Joe Ramia arrived from a three-day visit to Toronto on Monday where he was working with IBI Group, the world's third-largest architectural firm, putting the final touches on the plan.

Jamie Wright, IBI's lead architect, will be present for the final consultation that will be held at Pier 21, from 7 to 9 p.m.

The \$500-million Nova Centre project, which is scheduled to open in early 2016, is expected to include the convention centre, plus a financial centre, luxury hotel, shopping space as well as two 16-storey financial towers.



Joe Ramia METRO FILE

For Ramia, it's been a stressful few weeks since last month's consultation.

"I've never gone through this before," he said. "I have to make sure I look after everyone's interests. The public has a say — as well as the tenants and the design team — from a structural point of view. And then we have to build it from a cost point of view."

He said the consultation process that started in July has resulted in major changes. The convention centre that will span over Grafton Street was originally planned for underground and the parking entrance that was designed for pedestrian-heavy Argyle Street will be moved to another location that will be revealed Wednesday.

"People have told us that they want to see things different and we are trying to see what we can accommodate," said Ramia.

Paul MacKinnon, executive director of the downtown business commission, has attended each of the Halifax-based consultations. He calls the project a historic moment for the city, which will transform the downtown core and spur private investment.

"There's some uncertainty," he said, "but there's a great deal of excitement because it holds so much possibility."

ANDREW RANKIN/METRO



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Debate

## Affordable housing: Whose job is it?

A discussion about affordable housing and whether HRM should "get involved" surfaced and resurfaced several times during the priority outcomes debate Tuesday.

Councillors Jennifer Watts and Wayne Mason suggested the municipality can play a greater role in defining and clearing the way for more truly affordable housing.

However, several colleagues jumped in to say affordable housing is a provincial responsibility — and HRM should wash its hands.

"We'd better be in negotiations with the province to take something off our plate if we're going to take this on our plate," said Coun. Russell Walker.

Watts and Mason quoted from HRM's regional plan and the Municipal Government Act to explain that affordable housing is part of the municipality's purview.

Coun. Tim Outhit also chimed in to address the stubborn chorus of "it's not our mandate."

"I don't think anyone is suggesting we start building or managing affordable housing," he said.

"We are saying can we have policies that encourages or rewards affordable housing. I don't see how that would cost us any money or in any way conflict with the province."

CAO Richard Butts confirmed council can play a role in promoting affordable housing through its development and land-use policies.

RUTH DAVENPORT/METRO



Councillors Wayne Mason and Jennifer Watts listen to the debate during committee of the whole at Halifax regional council inside the World Trade and Convention Centre on Tuesday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

# Drawing up on HRM's to-do list

**Money matters.** Council reviews, adjusts priority list for upcoming budget discussions



RUTH DAVENPORT  
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A council meeting to determine HRM's top priorities heading into the budget-setting process lasted for hours and left city staffers with copious notes to organize.

The Strategic Priority Outcomes debate at Tuesday's committee of the whole allowed councillors to weigh in on a list, compiled by staff, of the most pressing issues facing the municipality.

Mayor Mike Savage didn't

Quoted

**"Every time you make one decision in a restricted fiscal environment, you're really making two decisions. It's about what you do, and also about what you don't do."**

CAO Richard Butts

impose time limits on debate, allowing a comprehensive airing of concerns.

"This is about us discussing the outcomes that we want to see," Savage told council. "People want council to take the lead in determining where this municipality's going to go this year and in years to come."

Councillors mostly agreed with the priority list, topped by development initiatives including the Regional Plan five-year review and Centre Plan.

Several councillors also emphasized transit and transportation problems, highlighting

the interlinked issues of urban density, road maintenance and transit deficiencies.

"If transit worked really well ... we could be making decisions that would support us in terms of our densification goals," said Coun. Jennifer Watts. "As we bring more cars onto the peninsula, they have to park, they jam up streets ... wider roads increase car usage, and it's not a direction or a solution we want."

Environmental issues weren't mentioned in the priority list, and public safety got only scant attention with a

line about programs for at-risk youth.

"If we put more into recreation, we'd have a more proactive approach to our youth at risk," said Coun. Lorelei Nicoll. "We would catch them before they become 'at-risk' youth. They'd just be youth, engaged in their communities."

City staffers took copious notes during the discussion and will now separate the multitude of topics into budget concerns, policy concerns and district-specific requests.

Several councillors urged getting the public more involved in the budget-setting process.

"In my experience, people have questions, but they often have answers as well," said Coun. Tim Outhit.

The budget process begins at the audit and finance committee meeting on Dec. 19.

1 NEWS

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## Less than an hour apart. Three teens charged after two swarmings

Halifax police say they're concerned after two swarmings happened less than an hour apart in Dartmouth on Monday night.

The first took place at 6 p.m. at the Metro Transit bus terminal as three females jumped a 21-year-old woman and tried to steal her backpack.

About 45 minutes later, officers responded to another robbery as two men were swarmed while walking on Mount Hope Avenue.

Police don't believe the two incidents are related.

"People should feel safe walking in our city, and should be able to do so," said police spokesman Const. Pierre Bourdages.

In the first swarming, the victim was kicked and punched and suffered minor injuries.

The assailants fled on foot. Three teens were arrested a short time later. Two of the

### Police

"Two in the same night, it's concerning."

Halifax Regional Police spokesman Const. Pierre Bourdages

teens are charged with robbery and breach of conditions, and the other is charged with assaulting a police officer and obstruction.

In the other swarming, a group of five to six males followed the two men and demanded their backpacks and electronics. Police say a suspect holding a knife punched one victim in the face, cracking his teeth. The other victim was knocked to the ground and then punched and kicked.

Four males were taken into police custody on nearby Pleasant Street, but were later released.

PHILIP CROUCHER/METRO

## Outstanding warrant. Man wanted for keeping bawdy house arrested

Halifax police have arrested another man wanted on its outstanding warrant list.

Police in Ontario arrested Blake Edward Stymest after he was released from the Central East Correctional Centre in Lindsay, Ont., last Saturday.

Stymest was one of 10 people on the latest High Risk Enforcement Action Team (HEAT) Outstanding Warrant List issued on Nov. 1. He is the third person to have been arrested.

He was wanted on various charges, including five counts of living off the avails of prostitution, two counts of keeping a bawdy house and one count of uttering threats to cause bodily harm or death.



Blake Edward Stymest POLICE HANDOUT

Police say they'll be travelling to Ontario on Wednesday to bring Stymest back to Nova Scotia. **METRO**

### Joy ride

## Teen charged for dangerous driving in Tantallon

Police in Tantallon have charged three teens after receiving reports of a car driving erratically on the St. Margarets Bay Road on Tuesday morning.

According to police, the vehicle attempted to go through an intersection and struck another car.

The driver, a 17-year-old male, was arrested by police for impaired driving and dangerous operation of a motor vehicle. **METRO**

### Checkpoints

## Cops on lookout for impaired drivers

Halifax police say their integrated traffic unit will be concentrating its efforts during December on impaired drivers.

Police say they plan to conduct checkpoints at various points and are encouraging anyone who believes they see an impaired driver to call 911.

In the first weekend of December, police say 10 people were charged with impaired driving. **METRO**



An RCMP officer attends the scene of a homicide in Montague Gold Mines in August 2011. Recent Statistics Canada data show that Halifax had the second-highest homicide rate per 100,000 people in Canada last year. **METRO FILE**

# Hal. homicide rate an anomaly: Police chief

## Statistics Canada.

HRM tops Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal in murder rate



HALEY RYAN  
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Although Halifax had the second-highest rate of homicides per 100,000 people last year, Paul McKenna said citizens shouldn't be too worried.

"I wouldn't call them alarmingly high," said McKenna, who teaches at Dalhousie University and is an expert in policing and law-enforcement issues. "You always have to put it in perspective."

On Tuesday, Statistics Canada released the 2011 homicide statistics by province and city.

Halifax was second in the country with a rate of 4.41, just behind Winnipeg's 5.08 rating, which is calculated per 100,000 people.

Our city's overall homicide total was listed at 18, the sixth highest in Canada, even more than Calgary (14) and Ottawa (11).

McKenna said it's useful to know the stats, but people should put them into the context of the larger violent-crime rate, which he said has been going down over the past few decades.

"Nova Scotia remains a relatively safe place," McKenna said. The province finished seventh overall in total homicides, with 22 occurring last year, well behind the front-runners of Ontario (161) and Alberta (109).

But McKenna said numbers like this should still give the police force pause. They also provide Halifax's new police chief the opportunity to reflect on the numbers and rededicate energy to the investigation and prevention of homicides.

Halifax Regional Police Chief Jean-Michel Blais said

### Finding a solution

"I think we need to have a look at the mayor's task force, maybe bring it back, see how we're doing."

HRM Mayor Mike Savage on recent homicide statistics



Tuesday 14 of last year's homicides have resulted in charges, with other investigations still ongoing.

Blais said by targeting prevention in areas seeing a lot of crime, and using the guns and gangs unit to arrest those involved with firearms, the 2012 statistics have improved.

There have been 10 homicides to date, with half of those stemming from the crime "sub-culture," said Blais, and 59 shootings have occurred as opposed to 75 last year.

"Last year was an anomaly," Blais said, "This is a very, very positive improvement in the statistics."

There were 11 homicides in 2010, and McKenna said a jump of seven to the 2011 total shouldn't scare people. "A jump by 10 or 20, now that's cause for alarm," McKenna said.

The homicide rate in Ontario, in contrast, hit its lowest point since 1966, with 28 fewer killings than in 2010.

Among the provinces, Manitoba reported the highest homicide rate for the fifth year in a row, followed by Saskatchewan and Alberta.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Homicides up 7% last year: StatsCan

Police reported 598 homicides in Canada in 2011, 44 more than the year before, and the first increase in homicides in three years, Statistics Canada said Tuesday.

The agency said the homicide rate was 1.73 per 100,000 population in 2011, seven per cent higher than in 2010, al-

though the rate of firearms homicides fell to the lowest level in almost 50 years.

The rate of homicides involving handguns has also generally been declining since reaching a peak in 1991, although they account for about two-thirds of all firearm homicides.

Despite annual fluctuations, the overall homicide rate has remained relatively stable over the past decade, after a steady decline from the mid-1970s.

Most of the 2011 increase was accounted for by Alberta, which had 32 additional homicides, and Quebec, which had 21 more.





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## Electoral map. Premier dismisses Acadian group's threat of legal challenge

Premier Darrell Dexter is dismissing a threat of a legal challenge over his government's proposal to redraw the province's electoral map.

Dexter responded Tuesday just as the Acadian Federation of Nova Scotia said it intended to challenge legislation that would merge the protected Acadian ridings of Clare, Argyle and Richmond with other ridings.

"I don't know how it could be illegitimate," Dexter said.

"We brought forward a fair process, one that seeks to balance the question of minority rights with the right of

### Statement

The federation issued a statement saying it feels betrayed by the NDP government, accusing it of interfering in the work of the independent commission that was tasked with updating the boundaries.

all people to feel that their votes count equally, and that balance is something that the commission had to deal with."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### City and county

## Public split on HRM separation: Poll

A new poll suggest the public is basically split down the middle on whether HRM should divide into a separate city and county.

According to the latest report from Corporate Research Associates, 46 per cent of those surveyed

support splitting HRM into two municipal units — a city for urban residents and a county for rural residents. Forty-seven per cent opposed.

Support has dropped for the split since August, when 54 per cent of those wanted the separation, and 37 per cent did not.

The poll is considered accurate to within plus or minus 4.9 percentage points.

METRO

# Dexter backs hydro project at public's expense: Baillie



Progressive Conservative Leader Jamie Baillie talks to reporters at Province House earlier this month. JEFF HARPER/METRO

## Faceoff. Tory leader calls for emergency debate over escalating costs of megaproject



ANDREW RANKIN

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The province's Tory leader sparked an emergency debate at the legislature Tuesday, accusing the government of blindly committing to the multibillion-dollar Muskrat Falls electricity project at the expense of ratepayers.

"This is a 50-year, seven-and-a-half-billion-dollar decision," said Jamie Baillie. "Nova Scotians are going to be paying for their share for a generation."

### Quoted

"Why doesn't he stand up and defend Nova Scotia ratepayers?"

Liberal leader Stephen McNeil on Premier Dexter's support for Muskrat Falls

This government committed and signed the dotted line and they're asking questions later."

The debate came on the same day that the province revealed details of the federal government's \$1.3-billion loan guarantee for the Maritime Link — Nova Scotia's commitment to the Newfoundland-based megaproject. The commitment, according to the province, is expected to decrease borrowing costs — which will be transferred to ratepayers — by \$100 million.

Last week, Emera, the company proposing to build the link, announced a sharp increase to the estimated cost of the project to \$1.5 billion, up from \$1.2 billion.

Premier Darrell Dexter has remained steadfast in his support for the project, arguing it's the best alternative for ratepayers and the environment.

Liberal Leader Stephen McNeil took his criticism of Dexter a step further: "He's allowing Nova Scotia Power and Emera to call the shots. He's not showing any leadership; he's not allowing these companies to be the energy department."

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Singer-songwriter Ria Mae performs one of her songs at the Delta Halifax during an East Coast Music Award press conference on Tuesday. **HALEY RYAN/METRO**

# ECMAs reveal showcase artists for March event

**Set list.** Ben Caplan, Jenn Grant, Gypsophilia and many more named as performers



**HALEY RYAN**  
haley.ryan@metronews.ca

It's been 25 years since the first ECMAs, and now they're coming home to Halifax.

"This is going to be epic," said Scott Burke, executive director of the East Coast Music Association.

"It's going to be a city-wide celebration, a double bill of tradition and rebellion," Burke said during the showcase announcements for East Coast Music Week from March 6-10, 2013.

Seventy artists were named to the main showcase stages of country, electronic, pop, rock, hip hop, roots and exports on Tuesday morning at the Delta

Halifax.

"Today is just one of the elements of the programming.... There'll be hundreds more performers to come," said Burke.

Burke said the award nominees will be announced in January.

Ria Mae also performed during Tuesday's press conference at the Delta Halifax, and was the winner of Pop Recording of the Year at the last ECMAs.

"It helped establish me in the East Coast, definitely," Mae said of the award, adding she's happy to be on the established pop/rock showcase stage in her second appearance at the festival.

"And I'm with Jenn Grant. Like that's huge. I love Jenn Grant."

Mae said Atlantic Canadian musicians are special because artists from all different genres have a family bond and support each other.

"There's hip hop and rock and all this, but everyone grows up listening to the same stuff,

## Shows to watch for

Some of the showcasing artists will include Jenn Grant, Paper Lions, SoHo Ghetto, Ria Mae and the Tom Fun Orchestra on the pop/rock stage. Quake Matthews, Cam Smith and The Caravan are rap/hip-hop acts, with Ben Caplan, David Myles, Radio Radio, Rose Cousins and Carmen Townsend on the export buyers stage. The Scientists of Sound and English Words are electronic acts, while Dave Gunning and Lennie Gallant appear at the songwriter's circle and Gypsophilia is on the soundwaves stage.

like Great Big Sea," she said.

"We have this common culture that the rest of Canada doesn't have. Things like the ECMA bring everyone together so nicely."

Early bird passes are now on sale at [ticketpro.ca](http://ticketpro.ca) or by calling 1-888-311-9090.



## A Message to All Non-Profit Groups in Nova Scotia

In Nova Scotia, a wide variety of human, social and health related services are offered by local community groups, non-profit agencies and government departments. Finding the right service at the right time though, can be a real challenge.

Beginning next February, a "211" service will provide Nova Scotians with a free, confidential information and referral program for the thousands of these services provided across the province. It will be available throughout the province, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year by simply dialling "2-1-1" to speak to a helpful staff member, or by searching our on line database, which will be up and running when 211 launches.

To help Nova Scotians in every community find and make good use of your services and programs, we need complete and accurate information. We want to ensure all services provided by community groups have been included for each and every community in Nova Scotia.

211 Nova Scotia is inviting all non-profit providers of human, social and health related services in communities throughout the province to contact us to confirm that the 211 database has the right information about your service.

We are a non-profit association - there is no cost to any organization to have information included in our database.

You can reach our team members by calling 902-466-5721 or emailing [info@ns.211.ca](mailto:info@ns.211.ca). We welcome inquiries from the general public as well. Information about 211 is available on our website at [www.ns.211.ca](http://www.ns.211.ca)

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# Not guilty! Soldier, wife share a long embrace

**Kandahar blast killed one.** Reservist cleared of manslaughter and breach of duty but found guilty on two other charges

A Canadian reservist has been found not guilty of manslaughter in an Afghan training accident that killed one soldier and injured four others more than two years ago.

A military jury at a court martial in Calgary also acquitted Maj. Darryl Watts of breach of duty.

But the five jurors, all senior officers in the Canadian Forces, convicted him of unlawfully causing bodily harm and negligent performance of military duty.

## Quoted

**"I feel very strongly in the man's innocence."**

Defence lawyer Balfour Der.

formance of military duty.

Watts, who stood at attention while the verdict was being read, shared a long embrace with his wife once the court had adjourned.

The courtroom at the Mevata Armoury in Calgary, where the trial was held, was jammed with military personnel.

The maximum sentence for unlawfully causing bodily harm is imprisonment of up to 10 years. Negligent performance of duty can bring dismissal with disgrace from the Canadian Forces.

Cpl. Josh Baker died when a Claymore anti-personnel mine loaded with 700 steel balls peppered the platoon on a practice range near Kandahar city in February 2010.

The prosecution had argued that Watts, the platoon leader, turned a blind eye to safety standards and abdicated his duty as a leader when he handed over responsibility to his second-in-command, who was an expert on the weapon.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Maj. Darryl Watts, pictured heading to court last month, has been found not guilty of manslaughter in a fatal Afghanistan training accident.

LARRY MACDOUGAL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

## UN aftermath. After big debate, Tories won't cut aid to the Palestinians

The Harper government pledged Tuesday night to preserve millions of dollars in Canadian aid to the Palestinians.

The issue was discussed during a 90-minute meeting in Ottawa involving Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird, International Co-operation Minister Julian Fantino and four envoys called home for talks.

Baird had recalled them to discuss a response to the Palestinians' new United Nations status.

Baird's spokesperson said Tuesday night that Canada's five-year, \$300-million commitment would be maintained when it expires in March. The

## World outsiders

Canada strongly opposed the Palestinians' successful effort last week to win elevated status at the UN.

- **Almost alone.** Canada was one of only nine countries to vote against the Palestinians in the 193-nation General Assembly.

money goes toward strengthening the Palestinian justice system, economic development, health and education.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Health Canada acts

### Testing lab's licence suspended

Health Canada has yanked the licence of a Toronto-area chemical testing laboratory.

The watchdog says it found falsified results in tests involving medications, natural food products and

food additives. It says in some cases, Chemi Pharmaceutical did not test drug ingredients.

The agency said there is no evidence the health of Canadians has been compromised. Chemi Pharmaceutical did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

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## Indonesia. Divorced via text message, second wife, 17, 'not a virgin'

Hundreds of Indonesians rallied Tuesday to demand a district chief's resignation after revelations of his text-message divorce to a teenage girl four days after their marriage.

The incident has sparked public outrage.

Aceng Fikri, chief of Garut District in West Java province, took 17-year-old Fani Oktora as his second wife in July.

But Fikri, 40, quickly divorced her via a short text message, alleging Oktora was not a virgin when they married as he had expected. He said he spent about \$26,000 on the wedding.

Students and rights activists in Garut spit and trampled on pictures of Fikri on Tuesday before burning them outside the local council building.

It was the second consecutive day of protests against Fikri, whose case came into the spotlight last week after a picture was posted on the Internet.

On Monday, dozens of people rallied in front of his house and the council building.

### Divorce by text

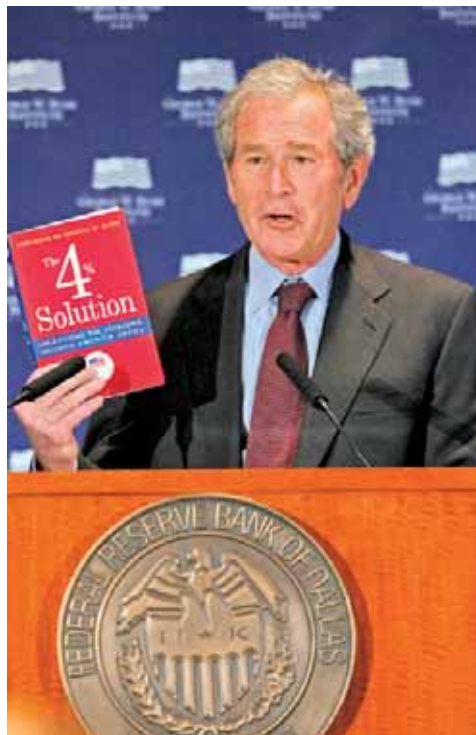
Some Muslims believe in an Islamic ritual allowing men to end a marriage by telling their wives they divorce them. However, divorce by text message is uncommon in moderate Indonesia.

Late Tuesday, the local council issued a recommendation for Fikri's dismissal, but the process will have to wait for a verdict by the Supreme Court.

Also on Tuesday, Oktora, accompanied by her lawyers, filed a complaint with police in the capital, Jakarta, accusing Fikri of domestic violence by holding her captive after the wedding and fraudulence for declaring that he was a widower.

A lawyer representing Fikri said they would file a complaint of defamation against Oktora, whom he said had signed an agreement saying she would not complain about the marriage.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



## Bush talks immigration

Former U.S. President George W. Bush holds up a book Tuesday as he gives opening remarks at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas for a conference titled Immigration and 4% Growth: How Immigrants grow the U.S. Economy. The conference was in Dallas. LM OTERO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## California. Judge upholds ban on therapy to change sexual orientation

For the second time in two days, a federal judge in California has issued a decision on the state's first-of-its-kind law prohibiting licensed psychotherapists from trying to change the sexual orientations of gay minors.

U.S. District Judge Kimberly Mueller issued a ruling Tuesday that will allow the ban on "conversion" therapy to take effect on January 1.

Her ruling came in a lawsuit filed by four counsellors, two families, a professional

organization for practitioners and a Christian therapist group seeking to overturn the law.

On Monday night, Mueller's colleague, U.S. District Judge William Shubb, handed down a somewhat competing ruling.

Shubb granted a request by two mental health providers and a former patient to be immune from the law until their lawsuit seeking to overturn it on U.S. First Amendment grounds can be heard next year. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Tuscan vineyard

## 16,500 gallons of prized wine lost

It's suspected that vandals have dumped almost the entire 2007-2012 production of one of Italy's most sought-after wines Soldera Brunello di Montalcino. Vineyard owner Giuseppe Soldera said Tuesday only "a little bit" remained of the production, and he wasn't sure what he would do with it. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### North Carolina

## Warden investigated

The warden at a prison in the U.S. state of North Carolina where six inmates allege correctional officers forced them to rub hot sauce on their genitals has been suspended pending the outcome of an investigation. A second employee also has been reassigned.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# John McAfee seeks asylum in Guatemala

**On the lam.** Founder of anti-virus company fled Belize fearing death in police custody

Software company founder John McAfee has surfaced in public for the first time in weeks, saying on Tuesday that he plans to ask for asylum in Guatemala because he fears persecution in Belize.

McAfee spoke to The Associated Press in a restaurant near a high-end hotel where he is staying in Guatemala City after sneaking out of neighbouring Belize. Police in Belize have called him a person of interest in the November slaying of a fellow American expat.

McAfee says he is being persecuted by the Belizean government and has sensitive information about official corruption in the country where

## Real-world security

**"I need a safe place where I can actually speak out."**

Anti-virus company founder John McAfee

he lived in a compound guarded by aggressive dogs and armed guards.

"Now that I'm here, I can speak freely. I can speak openly," McAfee said.

He said he plans to petition the Guatemalan government to allow him to stay. He added that he fears he will be killed if he turns himself in for questioning in Belize.

"Belize does not have a good track record of providing safety when they ask to question you," he said. "I felt much more secure crossing the border into a country that had laws that were backed by the justice system."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



John McAfee, left, with his lawyer, Telesforo Guerra, answers questions at a restaurant in Guatemala City on Tuesday. MOISES CASTILLO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Royal Family. Boy or girl, Kate's baby will take the throne: U.K. government

The business of monarchy has always been stacked in favour of men. Not any more — or so the British government promises.

The first child of Prince William and his wife, Kate, will be born a king or a queen in waiting, under changes to succession rules designed to overturn centuries of tradition and give royal daughters the same rights as sons.

Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg pledged on Tuesday that the law on succession would be changed at the "earliest opportunity." He said "whether the baby is a boy or a girl, they will have an equal claim to the throne."

"Born to rule, be it a boy or a girl!" proclaimed the Daily Mail, which noted that the baby had "already made royal and constitutional history" even before it is born.

Not so fast, caution others. A royal saga needs a touch of uncertainty, and experts point out that despite politicians' promises, the law giving males primacy in succession has not yet been changed — and the clock is ticking.



Britain's Prince William leaves a hospital in London on Tuesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"We know that the wishes of politicians are written in water," said royal historian Robert Lacey. "Law only becomes law when the law is made — and the law has not been made."

Last year, the leaders of Britain and the 15 former colonies that have the queen as their head of state informally agreed to establish new rules giving female children equal status with males in the order of succession — something that will require legal changes in each country.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Stay curious

### NASA hopes to send Curiosity clone to Mars

NASA says it wants to launch another mega-rover to Mars modelled on the wildly popular Curiosity.

The space agency said Tuesday that the spacecraft will be built from Curiosity's spare parts. It would use the novel landing system that got the car-size rover to Mars in August.

The new mission, estimated to cost about \$1.5 billion, is scheduled for 2020. But the rover's exact purpose in the mission hasn't been hashed out yet. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Magnetosphere

### Scientists discover radioactive chirps from the cosmos

Twin spacecraft have captured the clearest sounds yet from Earth's radiation belts — and they mimic the chirping of birds.

NASA's Van Allen Probes have been exploring the radiation belts surrounding Earth for just three months. But already, they've collected measurements of high-energy particles and radio waves in unprecedented detail.

The chorus has been audible before, however; ham radio operators could sometimes hear it decades ago. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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## Ottawa

## BoC maintains interest rates will need to rise

The Bank of Canada is holding fast to its view that the economy is poised for a comeback and that interest rates will need to rise at some point in the future.

The central bank offered no surprises in its Tuesday interest-rate announcement, keeping the policy setting rate at one per cent

for the 18th consecutive announcement date.

Bank governor Mark Carney kept in place his future guidance that in all likelihood rates are more likely to rise in the future than fall, or even stay the same.

"Although underlying momentum appears slightly softer than previously anticipated, the pace of economic growth is expected to pick up through 2013," the bank said in its policy statement. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## Washington

## Plans for avoiding fiscal cliff far apart

Both President Barack Obama and Republicans in Congress now have laid out some specifics of their vision for stepping back from the "fiscal cliff" budget crisis, but the plans are vastly different and leave politicians far from agreement with a deadline less than a month away.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## Calgary

## Canadian Pacific to cut 4,500 jobs

Canadian Pacific says it will eliminate some 4,500 jobs by 2016 and expects more than a third of those cuts to come by year's end as the struggling railroad works to bring down its operating costs. The Calgary-based company said reductions will be achieved through job cuts, attrition and reducing contractors.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**



Canadian Pacific Rail locomotives sit idle at the company's Port Coquitlam yard east of Vancouver in May. Canadian Pacific announced job cuts Tuesday morning. **THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE**

## Market Minute



**DOLLAR**  
100.68¢ (+0.17¢)



**TSX**  
12,137.18 (-32.56)



**OIL**  
\$88.50 US (-59¢)



**GOLD**  
\$1,695.80 US (-\$25.30)

**Natural gas:** \$3.54 US (-5¢)  
**Dow Jones:** 12,951.78 (-13.82)

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<b>DC Collection Memo Pads with Pen</b> 400 pg. excl. everyday & XMAS designs <b>Your Price \$2.99</b> Compare at \$9.99	<b>Santa Claus</b> 48" Standing Decoration cloaked in Rich Velvet, Furs & Fabrics with Accessories <b>Your Price \$75</b> Compare at \$199.99	<b>Taverners Liquorice Assorts</b> 1 kg bag <b>Your Price \$4.99</b> Compare at \$10.97	<b>Chateau Maison Fine Chocolate</b> 4 pk, 190g <b>Your Price \$2.99</b> Compare at \$9.97	<b>25% OFF our lowest price ALL Pet Supplies</b> Clothing, chews, toys & MORE!

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<b>Fine Tool Products</b> 3 pk Lantern, powerful 5 LED light, water resistant <b>Your price \$9.99</b> Compare at \$49.99	<b>Metal Alarm Clock Style Mantle Clock</b> 10", ass't. prints <b>Your price \$9.99</b> Compare at \$39.99	<b>Fine Line Products</b> Classic hand set for cell phones Compatible with iPhone & BlackBerry <b>Your price \$5</b> Compare at \$29.99	<b>50% OFF ALL Scrapbooking Supplies</b> Albums, kits, stickers, embellishments, books Great Brand Names: EK, Martha Stewart, Sandy Lion, Cloud 9 & MORE!	<b>Sleigh Bench</b> Ass't. fabric & faux leather and great colors to choose from Solid wood construction Perfect for the entry, hallway, etc. <b>Your price \$85</b> Compare at \$199.99

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## CFIB report. Five extra public-sector sick days cost up to \$3.5B yearly

A new report suggests public-sector employees in Canada take nearly five more sick, disability and personal days per year than Canadians working in the private sector.

The Canadian Federation of Independent Business says those extra days cost up to \$3.5 billion per year, noting some public-sector workers can bank unused sick days, then take a lump-sum payment or use the days to retire early.

The CFIB says federal government employees take the most time off, averaging 15.2 sick, disability and personal days per year compared to 12.9 days in the overall public sector and 8.2 days in the overall private sector.

In its report, the CFIB calls

### Private-sector figures

# 6.7

Employees in businesses with fewer than 20 employees averaged 6.7 days off, while those in firms with more than 500 employees took 9.1 days, which is still lower than the public-sector average.

for sick-day allotments to be aligned with those offered in the private sector and for the accumulation of unused sick days to be discontinued.

"I don't think anybody believes that public-sector workers just get sick more often, yet something makes them feel entitled to more time off," said CFIB president and CEO Dan Kelly. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



## PM warns editors to take action on press regulator

Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron meets children at a primary school in London on Tuesday. Earlier, Cameron warned newspaper editors they must act quickly to set up an independent press regulator in the wake of a media-ethics scandal. **NEIL HALL/PA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## Banking. BMO to focus on growing overhauled operations in U.S.

The Bank of Montreal has set its sights on growing its U.S. business, it said Tuesday after spending more than a year overhauling and revamping the operations.

BMO chief executive Bill Downe said the bank is launching a massive advertising blitz now that the integration of Milwaukee-based

Marshall and Ilsley Corp. is complete.

"This month we're blanketing our U.S. footprint with some of the strongest advertising and promotions the bank has ever developed, online, outdoor, broadcast and in-branch," Downe said on a conference call with analysts.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**



# OH, CHRISTMAS TREE, WHY DO YOU CAUSE SUCH A DEBATE?



**JUST SAYIN'**  
Paul Sullivan  
metronews.ca

There's an important dialogue going on in households around the world right about now.

And it goes like this:

**He:** So where do you think the tree should go this year?

**She:** You know, hon, I really think we should bite the bullet and buy an artificial tree this year. Those real trees are so messy. They drop all their needles and are full of bugs. Squirrels, too, maybe.

**He:** The trouble with artificial trees is that they look as if they were put together on craft day at kindergarten using toilet brushes and spray paint.

**She:** That's not true! The new ones are pretty nice and they come with lights. All you have to do is take them out of the box, plug them in and voila! Instant Christmas.

**He:** I try to stay away from anything with the word "instant" in it: instant coffee, instant mashed potatoes ...

**She:** But real trees are so expensive. To get one that looks any good, you have to spend at least \$50.

**He:** The only artificial ones that look any good at all cost seven or eight hundred bucks. At that

## The pine needle in my side

The only artificial ones that look any good at all cost seven or eight hundred bucks. At that price, it will take an eternity of instant Christmases to amortize the cost.

price, it will take an eternity of instant Christmases to amortize the cost.

*Sound of quaint landline ringing.*

**Offspring:** Hi Daddy! What's up?

**He:** Hi. Your mother is lobbying for an artificial tree again this year.

**Offspring:** Nooooo! It wouldn't be Christmas. The Geneva Convention specifically calls for a real tree to be sacrificed as a solstice offering. Have you called the Xmas police?

**He:** Not yet. She does make a certain amount of sense about the mess, which I end up cleaning up every year. And it's harder now because I have to toss the old tree over the balcony.

**Offspring:** Don't be silly, Daddy. You can get one of those noble firs. They don't lose their needles until Easter and only cost \$100 or so.

**He:** Is that all?

**Offspring:** And you get to save Christmas. I know I can count on you, Daddy. Gotta run! Ciao!

**She:** Was that our daughter?

**He:** Yes. She accused you of trying to ruin Christmas.

**She:** Same old, same old. By the way, I've been

thinking: We could get one of those Charlie Brown trees from

Ikea. I think they come free with a dozen meatballs.

**He:** I believe that's Lillie Karl in Sweden. And his dog is called Snobben. At least there

would be no place for the bugs to hide.

**She:** You can't help showing off, can you?

**He:** So where do you think the tree should go this year?



# Road bump in the baby lodge



CHRIS JACKSON/GETTY IMAGES

## Royal pregnancy

### Police not fooled by princely mask

A man wearing a Prince William mask is escorted away by a policeman at the King Edward VII hospital in London, England. Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge, remains in hospital after Monday's announcement of her pregnancy. She is suffering from hyperemesis gravidarum, or acute morning sickness.

**METRO**

## #royalbaby

### Messages from the womb, under 140 characters

This man isn't the only royal impostor caught up in baby-mania. Spoof Twitter accounts of the unborn child are getting attention.

"CURRENT STATUS: DARK IN HERE, WILL UPDATE," tweeted @RoyalFoetus, followed by more than 6,800. A rival, @RoyalFetus (10,000-plus followers), said: "I may not have bones yet, but I'm already more important than everyone reading this." **METRO**

## What are the odds?

# 8-1

Bettors in Britain will be able to back their royal-baby predictions with pounds sterling through agencies William Hill, Ladbrokes and Paddy Power. Paddy Power will give 8-1 odds for betting on twins; 100-1 for triplets. For quadruplets or more, you'll get 500-1 odds.

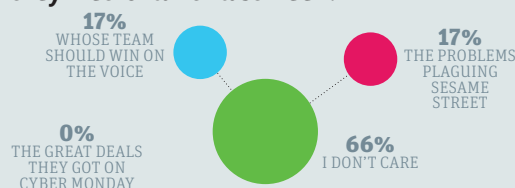
## Online

For the latest, go to metronews.ca.



Register at [metropolitanpanel.ca](http://metropolitanpanel.ca) and take the quick poll

## What do you think Barack Obama and rival Mitt Romney really talked about when they met for lunch last week?



## Twitter

**@ScottyWilk:**

From tha murda capital. Well almost, #2 Halifax #gettittogogether

**@andrewtyne:**

Does anyone know a gym in #Halifax that has a #HeavyBag?

**@Nurdy60:**

Noon gun is one of my favourite things about Halifax. #historynut #cana

**@almansour\_82:**

Now I believe in global warming. It's Dec. 4 and still no snow :( Come on #Halifax you can do it

**@Habifax:**

I just noticed that there's a girl on the bus wearing a tube top. There's all sorts of crazy in Halifax.

**@InHollinsHead:**

At this point Leafs fans should hope for a cancelled season as a Crosby-style lottery will be their best chance at drafting Nathan Mackinnon

## On top of the cheesy charts

Barry Manilow has become just the fifth artist to score 50 hits on Billboard's Adult Contemporary chart. The sentimental performer entered the rarified mix thanks to a cushy rendition of Santa Claus Is Coming to Town off his new Christmas album. As any Fanilow worth their One Night Live! One Last Time! concert tee could tell you, it's been four decades since the romantic balladeer first cracked the easy listening chart in November of 1974 with Mandy (the first of 13 of Manilow's ditties that would soar to No. 1 on the chart). We cosy up with the AC music titans voted most easy on the ears.

MIKE DOJC  
scene@metronews.ca



**Johnny Mathis**

**AC chart appearances: 49**

While just one chart appearance shy of an official 50 entries club membership, this velvet voiced crooner pioneered the greatest hits album format. 1958's Johnny's Greatest Hits earned Mathis a spot in the Guinness Book of World Record.



**Elvis Presley**

**AC chart appearances: 53**

You can thank the king, and thank him very much for assuring that the rhythm and blues, rock and roll and gospel charts got all shook up during his reign from the 1950s through the '70s until his untimely passing.

Easy Listening Cred: Can't Help Falling in Love, Suspicious Minds, It's Now or Never.



**Neil Diamond**

**AC chart appearances: 58**

While millennials know this jazzy vocalist as the guy who sings Sweet Caroline, Diamond has written a treasure trove of soft rock gems. He's sold over 125 million records during his five decades on the scene.

Easy Listening Cred: America, Heartlight, Forever in Blue Jeans.



**Elton John**

**AC chart appearances: 68**

In high school, this bespectacled pop piano prodigy should have been voted "most likely to be heard in an animated movie."

With lyricist Bernie Taupin in tow, the rocket man launched one hit after the other into radio orbit since Your Song off his sophomore album cracked the top 10 in 1970.



**Barbra Streisand**

**AC chart appearances: 64**

Trends, smrends, Babs eschewed 'em all, including rhinoplasty, fearing a nose job would ruin her voice. Never following suit with the hipsters of her heyday, Streisand was adult contemporary long before the term was coined.

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# METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

## The Word



## Random sources state the obvious about Will and Kate



THE WORD  
Dorothy Robinson  
scene@metronews.ca

The news of Will and Kate's impending arrival has the tabloids in a tizzy — and scrambling for anyone, anyone at all, to be quoted about it.

I've compiled a sampling of the best of these random, mostly anonymous sources, all of whom state how Kate and Will will be good parents (as if anyone is going to say that she's going to become a baby-smacking alcoholic and he's planning on raising the baby as a racist).

The best of the bunch,

with an added bonus of Snooki (say what?) commentary:

"Kate will be a firm but fair mother. Kate will let her children have fun and freedom, but she will also make sure they do what is best for them." — A "pal" of the Duchess of Cambridge, per Us Weekly.

"I can see William wanting to take time off in the modern paternity-leave style, so that he bonds with his child." — A "family friend" to dailymail.co.uk

"(Kate and Will) both try to be as normal as possible in their private lives. ... Everyone's always said what great parents they'll be, since they are such a caring couple and very relaxed. They will lavish love on their children." — Jessica Hay, a "childhood acquaintance" of Kate's, to Australian tabloid New Idea

"I'm sure she will be an amazing mom." — Snooki to the New York Daily News

## IRS seized Lohan's bank accounts

More trouble for Lindsay Lohan. The IRS has reportedly seized the Liz and Dick star's bank accounts because of her outstanding debt, according to TMZ.

Lohan previously had liens filed against her for unpaid taxes from 2009 and 2010 total more than \$233,000, but the government apparently got tired of waiting for her to make good on the debt.

She is said to also owe money for 2011. Sources tell the website that Lohan is in panic mode and is scrambling for ways to make enough money to get out of debt pronto.



Lindsay Lohan



John Travolta

## Travolta's alleged lover sues star

A man who told the National Enquirer that he had a "steamy affair" with John Travolta while working as his pilot from 1981 to 1987 is now suing the actor, insisting he never signed a confidentiality agreement that would bar him from talking to the media about his time with the actor, according to TMZ.

The man, Doug Gotterba, claims Travolta's lawyer,

Marty Singer, threatened a lawsuit after the story was published. Singer maintains that Gotterba's termination agreement included a confidentiality clause and that the former employee is just out for attention. "Mr. Gotterba obviously filed this lawsuit to get his 15 minutes of fame," Singer says. "We plan to get this meritless case promptly dismissed."

## Perry hides from Brand under the table

A nice dinner out at the Beverly Hills Polo Lounge with John Mayer turned awkward for Katy Perry when her ex-husband, Russell Brand, showed up. Just how awkward are we talking about? Perry reportedly crouched under her table and hid just to avoid Brand, according to Us Weekly. "The hostess almost



Katy Perry

seated Russell next to Kay," a source says. "Kay's face was like, 'Oh s—!'" And while the seating disaster was averted and Brand was set up elsewhere in the restaurant, he apparently needed to satisfy his curiosity upon learning of Perry's

presence. "On his way to the bathroom, he looked at [John and Katy] through a window," the source adds.

## Twitter



@ABFoundation

I'm gonna write a book. A novel. It's called A PRIVATE MISUNDERSTANDING. Can you guess what it's about? Can you guess what happens?



@kathygriffin

I bet Justin Bieber can blow a mean whistle



@ParisHilton

Just landed in Dubai. Next stop New York City.



@RebelWilson

I am going to go on a new cleanse - my weekend cleanse of cutting everything out of my diet except for chocolate DID NOT WORK!

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Since 1985, the United Nations has recognized the contributions of volunteers around the world on Dec. 5, International Volunteer Day. Metro talks to Cuso International and Free The Children, international development organizations that send volunteers overseas to share their expertise with partners in other nations. Here, they offer five things to consider before taking the leap into overseas volunteering.

METRO NEWS  
life@metronews.ca



Visual artist Stephanie Stoker (centre) works with young adults in Peru. CUSO INTERNATIONAL

## Choose your organization carefully

Some organizations require you to pay your own way, and often include a fee; volunteering may be a fundraising mechanism for a development project. For others, volunteering is fundamental to their programs, and those serving take on professional roles in longer-term development.

SEAN KELLY, CUSO INTERNATIONAL

## Work alongside the local community

Often times, travellers volunteer in isolation from the local community in which they are working in. Make sure to travel with organizations that have strong partnerships with local communities and governments. This enables you to ensure you are committing to a project that promotes long term and sustainable change.

CRAIG KIELBURGER, FOUNDER, FREE THE CHILDREN



School-building with local children creates a lasting bond for volunteers. FREE THE CHILDREN

# 5 things every volunteer should know



Bairu Sium, left, a Toronto high school teacher, assists his colleagues in education in Tanzania. SCOTT PORTINGALE/CUSO INTERNATIONAL

## Know why you're going

Volunteers want to help and make a difference, as the cliché goes, but most know this isn't a purely selfless act. You will learn new skills, broaden your horizons and come to better understand yourself and the world. And that's all OK. Reflect on your motivations. You want to help reduce global poverty or protect the natural world, but what else? Have you always wanted to travel, but not as a tourist? Work with kids? When you understand your motivations, you'll be in a better position to choose the option that is right for you. SEAN KELLY, CUSO INTERNATIONAL

## A volunteer trip is just the beginning

Volunteer travel is a life-changing experience for both the traveller and the developing communities in which they work. Further ignite the global change maker in you by taking your experience one step further when you return home. Spread the message of your transformative experience to others, helping to spark the change within them. CRAIG KIELBURGER, FOUNDER, FREE THE CHILDREN



For young people, volunteering means being engaged, empowered and part of a team.

FREE THE CHILDREN

## Don't assume you know it all

Decades of successful and not-so-successful development assistance shows that projects parachuted in from above, without consultation or roots in local communities, usually do not have long-term benefits. You will want to help build the social infrastructure that is so critical to any nation's future.

SEAN KELLY, CUSO INTERNATIONAL



Augustina Aporte, who lives in Bolivia, works with the Chiquitania Forest Conservation Foundation on sustainability projects. MIGUEL HORTIGUELA/CUSO INTERNATIONAL

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# Laughing in the frigid face of Old Man Winter

**Festival fun.** Bundle up and embrace Canadian culture at one of the many outdoor events taking place this season

The coming weeks are a time of hibernation for many Canadians. As temperatures plummet, it's only natural to want to huddle indoors near the warm glow of a fireplace or big-screen television and wait for the depth of winter to pass.

But for many people, it's a time of celebration. It's also a chance to show Old Man Winter that we Canadians can still face winter head-on, like the early settlers did with an axe, a tent and some hearty food and drink. For a few hours, anyway.

"Even if it's -40 C, people will be out there. They really want to enjoy winter and they embrace it," says Irina Ivanov-Bissonnette, spokesperson for the Festival du Voyageur.

The festival is held every



Children hang out with Leo LaTuque, the mascot of the Festival du Voyageur. DAN HARPER/THE CANADIAN PRESS HANDOUT

year in mid-February in the St. Boniface neighbourhood of Winnipeg and brings visitors back to the early 19th century, when a small fort on the very site played an important role in the fur trade. There are similar festivals held across the country in January and February, including the Voyageur Winter Carnival in Thunder Bay, Ont., the Yukon Sourdough Rendez-Vous in Whitehorse, and the biggest one of all — the Quebec Winter Carnival.

They have a common theme

— instead of hiding from winter, get outside, interact with hundreds or thousands of others and celebrate the often cold, harsh history of Canada's development. The Yukon Sourdough Rendez-Vous bills itself as "the only legal cure for the cabin fever blues."

"We want to encourage people to embrace the weather, embrace that time of the year," said Rendez-Vous Society executive director Jon Solberg. "It's about actually getting out in the community and getting

active in different events that are going on."

Festival-goers at Rendez-Vous, scheduled to run Feb. 21 to 24 in 2013, may find themselves carrying large bags of flour on their backs, throwing an axe or racing in snowshoes — all in temperatures that can dip below -20 C. The festival celebrates the Yukon gold rush and recreates, to some extent, how people lived in the late 1800s. "It's celebrating the pioneers," Solberg said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Blue Cheese & Pear Tarts



**1.** Preheat oven to 425 F (220 C). Lightly butter baking sheet. Cut pear in half lengthwise; scoop out core and stem. Place cut sides down and cut lengthwise into 1/4-inch (0.5 cm) thick slices. Place on buttered baking sheet and roast 18 mins., flipping halfway, until golden. Transfer to cutting board and let cool. Reduce oven temperature to 375 F (190 C).

into bottom of each tart. Divide crumbled blue cheese and pear over onions. Pour cream mix into tart shells until little bits of filling are peaking through.

**6.** Place baking sheet in oven and bake 25 mins. or until filling is puffy and tart shells are golden. Allow to cool a little before serving. [DAIRYGOODNESS.CA](http://DAIRYGOODNESS.CA)

### Ingredients

- 1 pear
- 1 tsp (5 ml) butter
- 1 tsp (5 ml) olive oil
- 1 onion, diced
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) salt
- 3 eggs
- 3/4 cup (175 ml) each 35% whipping cream and 14% sour cream
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) pepper
- 24 frozen tart shells (3-inch/7.5 cm size)
- 3-1/4 oz (100 g) Canadian Blue cheese, crumbled

**2.** Meanwhile, in skillet, heat butter and oil over medium heat. Add onions and half of salt. Cook, stirring occasionally, 8 mins., or until onions are tender. Set aside.

**3.** In bowl, whisk eggs, cream and sour cream. Whisk in remaining salt and pepper.

**4.** Chop pear slices into 1/4- to 1/2-inch (0.5 to 1 cm) pieces; set aside.

**5.** Place frozen tarts on clean baking sheet. Spoon onions,



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# Optimize your office experience

## Placement pointers.

A co-op can easily turn into a full-time career, so work it like you're already on board

VALERIE AGUIAR  
TalentEgg.ca

Going out on a co-op work term for the first time can be daunting. Aside from showing up to work, there's a lot you should

do to make a good impression. Here are seven tips to help you make the most of your experience:

### Don't wait until the first day

If you've been given your managers' contact information, get in touch with them. Let her know that you are excited to start and find out if there is anything they can suggest for you to do before you arrive. This gives them a good impression of you before they've even met you.

### On your first day, come prepared

Bring in a copy of your job description as well as a notebook. You'll be taking in a lot of new information, so it helps if you write it down. It's also important that you rest up the night before. Even though your job might not be grueling, being in a new environment is, so help your body out by getting some sleep.

### Ask questions

Don't be afraid to ask for help if you need it. People know you are new, and in most cases, they'll be more than happy to help. Don't be intimidated if everyone seems busy. They are,



Don't flood your supervisor's inbox with questions when you could have easily asked a co-worker instead. ISTOCK

but they'll still find a way to help you — if you ask.

### Observe

Whenever possible, try to watch and see how your manager and co-workers interact (not in a creepy way, of course!). Maybe people at your company

are very casual in conversation. How do people dress? How long do people typically go for lunch? Use what you see to help you fit in.

### Ask for work

Each manager is unique. Some might delegate tasks to you,

## Speak out

@TalentEgg: #Coop students and grads: do you think co-op placements make a big difference in hatching a career? #QuestionOfTheDay

- @SabaSabati: Absolutely! U graduate w/ min 9 months experience. Relative to those with 0, it's a huge advantage! + networking opp = priceless
- @ssimpson3: It's a great way to add some experience to your resume, network within the industry, and gain some real world skills
- @danchukal: absolutely! Coop gets ur foot in the

door and without that exp, you'll be many steps behind those who have. #QuestionOfTheDay

- @sonjaferne: My worry as parent is companies cutting back; more students to place & fewer placements these days. So...is it worth it?
- @ScouseNerd: absolutely! If my previous program had anything like that I think my life would be much different today
- @Mathoraa: Definitely! It not only gives you experience, but also a 'feel' on what the job is like

others might only give you work if you ask for it. Don't be afraid to use the phrase, "Would you like me to do anything in particular today?" It always helps to be proactive at work. Plus, you might learn a thing or two.

When in doubt, check it out. If the work you are given is difficult and you aren't sure whether you did it correctly, ask someone to look over your

work.

Your manager would definitely prefer this instead of finding a ton of mistakes later. You'll find that as time goes on, you'll feel more confident in your work.

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# Save under the stars at Park Lane

What could be better than holiday shopping under the stars? How about saving money while you shop at Park Lane Mall? At the Dec. 7 Shopping Under the Stars event, there are all kinds of ways to save.

"Most of our retailers are taking part in our tax-free shopping event," says Park Lane marketing director Elizabeth Engram. "Some of them are offering other discounts as part of Shopping Under the Stars."

With a wide selection of fashions, great retailers and an eight-screen movie theatre, Park Lane Mall at 5657 Spring Garden Rd. has always offered a unique shopping experience in the heart of downtown Halifax. That experience is better than ever during Shopping Under the Stars.

While you're there, you can take your purchases to the gift-wrapping booth. FEED Nova Scotia staff will be managing the booth from Dec. 3 to 22. Shoppers are invited to have their gifts wrapped for a small donation to the charity.

The gift-bag station is located near

the front of the mall, outside Kelly's Luggage, and will be staffed from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Suggested donations are \$2, \$3, \$4 and \$5, since there are four different sizes of gift bags.

You also have the chance to enter to win one of four \$250 mall gift Certificates. "All our Facebook 'fans' will also be entered to win one of four \$100 gift Certificates," says Engram.

Draw dates are Nov. 30 and Dec. 7, 14 and 21, with two draws on each day, one from the booth and one from Facebook.

Parking has never been a problem at Park Lane; with the attached indoor parkade, you'll always find a spot. And during the Christmas shopping season parking is easier than ever, with free parking after 6 p.m. in the Park Lane parkade from Dec. 1 to 26.

"Shopping Under the Stars is going to be lots of fun this year," says Engram. "It's a great way to experience holiday shopping in downtown Halifax."

-Tom Mason

## For more information

For more information about Park Lane Mall and its retailers, please visit [shopparklane.ca](http://shopparklane.ca) or [shoppingunderthestars.ca](http://shoppingunderthestars.ca). Park Lane is open Monday to Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.



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[ShoppingUnderTheStars.ca](http://ShoppingUnderTheStars.ca)



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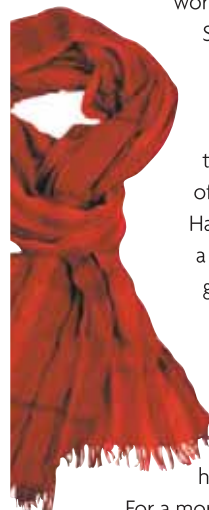
**DUGGERS**  
Generations of low styled men

# Find quality and unique brands at Dugger's

Dugger's Men's Clothing has been a Spring Garden Road fashion trendsetter for decades. Dugger McNeil opened the store in 1971; today his son Ross operates the business located at 5476 Spring Garden Rd. and delivers the same quality one-on-one customer service that his father made famous more than 40 years ago.

Ross McNeil says the company has built and maintained its reputation over the years by carrying exceptional brands not available anywhere else in Atlantic Canada. "We sell a lot of products that are exclusive to this end of the country," he says.

Standout brand names include Hugo Boss, Canali, Coppley, Jack Victor, Strellson, Ted Baker and Ermenegildo Zegna. "We travel all over the world looking for the right brands for our customers," says McNeil. "We like to say that we bring a world of fashion to Spring Garden Road."



McNeil points out that Dugger's carries one of the best selection of men's shoes in Halifax, along with a wide selection of gift ideas at a wide range of prices. "We carry everything from Ted Baker designer socks to high-end suits," he says.

For a more chic-casual look,

Dugger's features D2, a fashion destination for men and women with such brands as Diesel, Polo Ralph Lauren, Burberry, Fred Perry, Boss Orange, True Religion, Seven for All Mankind, G-Star, Canada Goose, Ben Sherman and more.

Dugger's has also carved out a reputation for exceptional service, with an array of services that include

an on-site tailor for custom work, a wardrobe-consultation service, a kids' room where children can relax and have fun while their parents shop and an excellent return policy.

And for people who have a hard time making it in during regular shopping hours, the store has a unique appointment service so customers can arrange a time to browse that suits their schedule.

To celebrate Spring Garden Road's Shopping Under the Stars event on Dec. 7, Dugger's is offering complimentary beverages, wine and cheese to customers throughout the day and evening.

"People are looking for something special at Christmas," says McNeil. "There's a definite trend toward quality at this time of year, and quality is something our customers have come to expect."

-Tom Mason





# A passion for pets at Pet Valu

For the Dec. 7 Shopping Under the Stars event, the locally owned and operated Pet Valu at 5686 Spring Garden Rd. will be giving away a free blue Pet Valu eco-friendly bag to customers, plus a 2013 calendar containing coupons with savings to use in the store. Open until 10 p.m. that night, the animal-loving staff will

be offering free refreshments for people and pets, including coffee, water, candy canes and baked goods for shoppers, as well as treats for visiting dogs and cats. "All manner of small animals are welcome too," says Lina Clarke, who owns the full-service pet-supply store with her husband, Wilf. In addition to selling a wide range

of products for dogs and cats of all ages and sizes, the store carries food and supplies for birds, fish, rats, mice, hamsters, guinea pigs, gerbils and reptiles. As well as in-store specials on Dec. 7, selected food, treats and supplies will be marked down as much as 50

per cent. If you're looking for festive-themed gifts or apparel for your furry friends, you'll find stuffed animals shaped like reindeer, Santa and candy canes, plus the always popular reindeer antlers for dogs. There are even sweaters for

dogs with reindeer, Santa and Christmas trees on them. If you can't find what you're searching for, the staff will be happy to answer your questions. All staff members possess pet-nutrition certification from the veterinary school at University of California Davis. "Everyone who works here is passionate and knowledgeable about pets," says Clarke.

-Jane Doucet

## Old and new holiday traditions at Mills

For more than 70 years, Mills has held on to a special holiday tradition of decorating its front window with a beautiful scene from Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. This year is no exception, and Haligonians were eagerly anticipating the arrival of Snow White on Dec. 1.

"We always get calls asking when Snow White is going in the window," says Sarah Flynn, Mills' director of marketing.

Thanks to the timing of the iconic display, when Shopping Under the Stars is held on Dec. 7 at Spring Garden Road Area businesses, Mills' customers will already be in the holiday spirit.

Located at 5486 Spring Garden Rd., Mills will stay open until 10 p.m. that night and offer unique specials. For example, for every \$100 you spend before tax, you'll get a \$10 gift card.

Searching for something to wear to a party? "There's a great selection of holiday wear, from sequined dresses to pretty cashmere sweaters," says Flynn. "Whether you're looking for a short-sleeved top to wear under a jacket or a tunic style to wear with jeans, we have you covered."

The store is featuring a new collection of Michael Kors jewelry, watches and wallet gifts sets this holiday season. Mills also offers complimentary makeup application with the purchase of three cosmetics products.

"If you see something you like for yourself, fill out our

gift-registry card so your friends and family can get you exactly what you want," says Flynn. "We can also create beautiful custom gift baskets for both corporate and personal gift giving."


-Jane Doucet



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## Spa has holiday gifts for everyone

To celebrate the Dec. 7 Shopping Under the Stars event, Vitality Medi spa at 5640 Spring Garden Rd., in the upper level of Spring Garden Place mall, will be extending its regular business hours and opening from 7 a.m. until 10 p.m.

Parched and peckish shoppers can partake of the complimentary hot apple cider, hot chocolate, coffee, tea and chocolates while they scout the spa for unique gifts.

"Popular stocking stuffers include mini nail buffers and files, mini Redken styling products and a SpaRitual vegan nail-lacquer kit, which includes four small



bottles of polish and a purse," says David Lynds, the spa's marketing manager.

Other gift ideas include Kérastase holiday kits (free shampoo with a treatment and styling product purchase; prices vary), Dermalogica kits (full-size product with two free travel-size products; from \$43.50 to \$84) and Redken shampoo-and-conditioner duos (\$21.99).

If you're not sure what's right for those on your list, a gift card is ideal. "You can load any amount on them, from \$1 to \$1,000 or more," says Lynds.

On Dec. 7, all merchandise is tax free and on sale. Plus, the spa is adding a bonus of 15 per cent on gift cards loaded at or above \$50. So if you buy a \$100 gift card, \$115 gets loaded onto the card.

Throughout December, the fee to get eyelash extensions, which are popular for parties at this time of year, is an incredible \$99, down from \$204. "They last three to four weeks and will definitely stay in place through the holidays," says Lynds.

-Jane Doucet



## Art gallery offers personal touch

The two resident cats, Mingus and Eliot, are the first clue that Zwicker's Gallery is no ordinary business. The art gallery located at 5415 Doyle St., next to the public library on Spring Garden Road, has been a fixture of downtown Halifax for 126 years, making it one of the oldest art dealerships in Canada.

Today gallery directors Ian and Ann Muncaster

offer patrons a wide selection of paintings, graphics and sculptures from a number of talented Canadian and international artists. Also on display is a unique selection of Inuit

and aboriginal art, antique maps, charts and historical prints of Canada.

"We have early engravings of Halifax dating back as far as 1750," says Ian Muncaster. "We have one of the largest selections of art offered by a commercial gallery in Eastern Canada."

For lovers of fine art, that's just the

beginning. Zwicker's Gallery restores art that has been damaged by fire, water or acts of vandalism, a service that's in high demand, according to Muncaster. "In a city the size of Halifax, it's not easy to find good restoration services. We also do custom framing and restoration for valuable paintings."

The gallery also offers a wide range

of appraisal services. "We do many appraisals for institutions such as the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia and the National Gallery, as well as for individuals for their insurance and estate-

settlement needs," says Muncaster.

It's a very personal business. "Our clients come in for quality, for the fact that we offer services they can't find anywhere else," says Muncaster. "We end up establishing close relationships with them."

-Tom Mason



Photo: Supplied



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# ZWICKER'S GALLERY



# Great selection, service and prices ✨ ✨ ✨

What comes to mind when you think of Spring Garden Place? The latest fashions and accessories? Delicious food? Great selection, services and prices? Experience all of these things and more during Spring Garden Road's Dec. 7 Shopping Under the Stars event.

Spring Garden Place at 5640 Spring Garden Rd. has long been a popular downtown holiday-shopping destination. "Shopping Under the Stars will be the perfect time to experience our unique selection of shops, boutiques and services," says Spring Garden Place manager Jonathan Schneider.

The latest fashions will be on display as models exhibit

clothes and accessories available from Spring Garden Place's fine retailers during Shopping Under the Stars. And while you're at it, take advantage of great savings such as Shopping Under the Stars tax-free sales at Touch of Gold and Better Than Her Boutique.

Sock It To Ya and All Dressed Up will be tax free from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. during the event. The Vault will be tax free on everything except Michael Kors watches and Pandora.

All paintings at Tom Rideout Lighthouse Gallery will be 30 per cent off, while Roots will be offering 20 per cent off all purchases. At Pink Mascara, if you buy one item you'll get another one at half price.



tempting samples from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

As a further thank-you from retailers, all shoppers will receive a ballot for a \$500 shopping spree with every purchase. "We'll also be featuring live music provided by Halifax singer and guitarist David MacFarlane," says Schneider.

- Tom Mason



Photos: Supplied

## More in store

Spring Garden Place is the spot for shops, services, dining options, great savings and more. As part of the Shopping Under the

Stars event, Spring Garden Place will be open until 10 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 7. For more information, visit [springgardenplace.ca](http://springgardenplace.ca).





**Stop by Spring Garden Place during Shopping Under the Stars  
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**Touch of Gold • Tax Free**  
**Vitality Medi Spa • Tax Free on product. 15% Added to gift cards over \$50**



# Holiday dining at The Hideaway

Shopping Under the Stars isn't just about getting great Christmas presents; it's also about taking time to enjoy the holiday season.

With Spring Garden Road and its surrounding streets decorated with lights and special deals, it's a good time to explore downtown Halifax's busiest shopping area. But if you feel your inner Grinch taking over, maybe it's time to escape the hustle and bustle—and where better to do that than the Hideaway Pub & Grille?

This fall John Mihelcic took over the spot at 5677 Brenton Place, the former location of The Cellar Bar and Restaurant, and renovated it in the style of an English pub. Open since Nov. 8, he has had a warm welcome from the community.



"It's an excellent location, one block removed from one of the busiest intersections in the city," he says.

Add in the new condominium buildings, hospitals and universities, and Mihelcic knew he had found his spot. "We wanted to make it a place where people could come on a regular basis," he explains. "The word 'pub' means public house, where everyone used to gather. We want to set it up so people can come and enjoy themselves."

The Hideaway has both a comfortable pub-eatery space and a separate upscale casual dining room that is perfect for private functions.

Originally from Toronto, Mihelcic spent the last 20 years in Bermuda. He had visited Halifax many times, and his daughter studied here. A strong economy made it the ideal time and place to open his restaurant.

Mihelcic calls the Hideaway the "best place to be found," and it gets even better with holiday specials. As a Christmas present to you, if you stop by for a meal on Friday, Dec. 7 (popular mains include lamb shank and haddock with bananas and almonds) and book your Christmas party that night, the Hideaway will provide the wine for free.

Mihelcic suggests that people get their evening started with a meal at the Hideaway before heading out to shop. "We'll have the happy hour going," he says. "It's a good place to come and have a meal before you start spending your money."



Photos: Supplied

The Hideaway Pub & Grille is offering *Shopping Under the Star* specials, including \$2 off glasses of wine, martinis, cosmos and cocktails. Draft beer is \$5 and highballs are \$4. On Dec. 7, all appetizers will be 15 per cent off. Happy hour runs from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.



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# The dish on Dresden Row Market

For some great buys in downtown Halifax, head to Dresden Row Market, located at 1535 Dresden Row. The City Centre Atlantic property has several restaurants and shops where you can buy the ingredients for Christmas dinner and gifts.

One of its anchor tenants is Pete's Frootique. The grocery-and-food emporium is popular with foodies, gourmands and families. In time for Christmas, it's offering British Quality Street chocolates, Ginger House Stollen Bread, holly bushes, mincemeat and panettone.

At Premier Wine and Spirits, find the perfect wine, beer or spirit. It boasts more than 400 international wines, an extensive selection of microbrewed and imported beer and rare single malt scotches and other spirits.

Hungry? Check out Koo-E Nami Royale, Sushi Nami Royale or Cora Breakfast and Lunch. Koo-E Nami Royale offers some of Halifax's best Korean dining. Its barbeque buffet features a range of pork and chicken dishes, plus seafood and vegetarian options.

Sushi Nami Royale has a wide selection of authentic Japanese and new fusion cuisine, and Cora is famous for its hearty breakfast and lunch dishes.

If you're looking for gifts, explore Cucina Moderna, which has a wide selection of kitchen products, a gift-registry service, a bridal consultation and cooking classes.

Dresden Row Market has some of Halifax's finest clothing stores too. The Sutor Clothing Company offers men's designer suits and attire. It has been in business for 16 years,

and owner Raad Daniel is a second-generation tailor. 2008 New Century Trading offers women's clothing and accessories at a similar high level of service.

For your amateur and professional photography needs, visit Atlantic Photo Supply, Halifax's Pro-Nikon and Pro-Canon dealer that also offers a range of telescopes and accessories. It's also the place to get your passport photo taken.

A trip to Topcuts will ensure that you look your best for the holidays, but make sure you book in advance at this busy time of year.

On the second floor is One To One Wellness Centre, which offers personalized rehabilitation integrated with advance strength training methods. And Lillian's Tailor shop not only will take care of your tailoring needs but also offers bridal-dress seamstress services.



Photos: Supplied

## Park and shop

Abundant indoor parking is available directly off Birmingham Street. City Centre Atlantic, the building that houses the Dresden Row Market, is pleased to welcome new neighbours this year. A five-storey addition consisting of 96 apartments is now leasing. Contact Vertu Suites at 406-1530.



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**Dresdenrowmarket.ca**



# Secondary scorers shine in latest Mooseheads victory

## Chipping in.

Three-point nights for Ciampini, Boudreau



**PHILIP CROUCHER**  
philip.croucher@metronews.ca

The Halifax Mooseheads' second line stole the offensive show in the team's latest victory on Tuesday night.

The unit of Luca Ciampini, Matthew Boudreau and Darcy Ashley combined for eight points as the Mooseheads downed the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles 5-3 before 3,045 fans at Centre 200 in Sydney.

Ciampini and Boudreau each finished with a goal and two assists, while Ashley had two helpers.

"I think that line made the difference. They had a solid game," said Mooseheads coach Dominique Ducharme.

The performance was especially nice for Halifax as the trio will be relied on heavily to produce as the first line of Nathan MacKinnon, Jonathan Drouin and Martin Frk leaves for junior selection camps next week.

Frk, who scored on Tuesday, is trying out for Team Czech Republic, while MacKinnon and Drouin are among the 37 players vying for a place on Team Canada.

## Selection camp

### Top pair's status up in the air

Halifax Mooseheads coach Dominique Ducharme doesn't know if Nathan MacKinnon and Jonathan Drouin will play in both of the team's games this weekend.

The pair begin the Canadian junior selection camp Monday in Calgary, and Halifax faces the Titan in Bathurst on Saturday night and the Saint John Sea Dogs Sunday afternoon.

"We're not sure how it's going to work. We'll know (Wednesday)," said Ducharme.

**PHILIP CROUCHER/METRO**

## Quoted

**"I like the way we played. It was a really solid road game for us."**

Mooseheads coach Dominique Ducharme

"There could've been a few goals, they missed some chances," Ducharme said of his top line. "One thing as a line is they can be more aggressive



Halifax Mooseheads forward Nathan MacKinnon tries to score on Cape Breton Screaming Eagles goaltender Philippe Trudeau on Tuesday night. CAPE BRETON POST

shooting pucks at the net. Besides that, they're pretty solid."

Stefan Fournier had the other goal for Halifax, which improves its league-best record to 24-3-0-1.

Michael Clarke, Kyle Farrell and Brett Malone replied for

Cape Breton, which was playing for the first time under new head coach Marc-Andre Dumont.

"We knew they would be coming out hard and we wanted to make sure we killed that early. I think we did a good job

on that," Ducharme said.

The Eagles are now winless in eight games (0-7-0-1) and have just seven wins in 31 starts.

Chris Clarke was in goal for Halifax and finished with 19 saves.

## Drouin jumps nine spots in TSN ranking



Halifax Mooseheads forward Jonathan Drouin, left, battles with Drummondville's Matthew Boudens earlier this season. JEFF HARPER/METRO FILE

Jonathan Drouin's draft stock continues to rise.

The 17-year-old Halifax Mooseheads forward jumped nine spots from No. 13 to No. 4 in the monthly NHL draft ranking from TSN scout Craig Button.

"When he's on the ice he's always dangerous," Button says of Drouin on TSN.ca. "That and the chemistry that he and (Nathan) MacKinnon have developed have made them as threatening a duo as there is in

## Fucale tops goalie list

Goaltender Zach Fucale of the Halifax Mooseheads is the top-rated netminder on Button's list, and 14th overall amongst all players.

junior hockey. They intimidate opponents and electrify fans, and have certainly excited NHL scouts with their play to this point."

Button puts MacKinnon at

No. 2 in his rankings behind blue-liner Seth Jones of the Western Hockey League's Portland Winterhawks.

MacKinnon and Drouin, ranked by Central Scouting as the top-two draft prospects from the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League last month, are one-two in Mooseheads scoring this season.

MacKinnon has 22 goals and 28 assists, while Drouin has 15 goals and 43 points.

**PHILIP CROUCHER/METRO**

## Hockey

### Americans name invitees for junior selection camp

Returning players John Gibson, Jacob Trouba and J.T. Miller as well as some top NHL prospects were among 27 players invited Tuesday to the U.S. junior team pretraining camp. Alex Galchenyuk of



**Alex Galchenyuk**  
GETTY IMAGES FILE

Tyler Biggs and the Ottawa Senators' 21st overall selection Stefan Noesen were also invited. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

the Sarnia Sting, drafted third overall by the Montreal Canadiens in June, as well as Toronto Maple Leafs first-rounder

## MLB

### Victorino Beantown bound

Free-agent outfielder Shane Victorino and the Red Sox agreed Tuesday to a \$39-million, three-year contract, Boston's second big addition during the winter meetings.

The deal is subject to a physical. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



**Shane Victorino** GETTY IMAGES FILE

## Soccer



**"The team will have to take a step back to move forward again."**

Canadian women's soccer team coach John Herdman, who is pleading patience with fans as he brings some new, young talent into the team ahead of the 2015 World Cup and 2016 Olympics.

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## Wizards stun Heat for second win of the season

Nene of the Washington Wizards dribbles past LeBron James of the Miami Heat on Tuesday in Washington, D.C. Despite James recording a triple-double, the Wizards upset the Heat 105-101.

ROB CARR/GETTY IMAGES

### NBA

## Rockets rally for win over Lakers

Toney Douglas had a season-high 22 points and Greg Smith added a career-best 21 to help the Houston Rockets rally for a 107-105 win over the Los Angeles Lakers on Tuesday night.

The Lakers had a 13-point lead with less than 10 minutes to go. But Houston used two big runs, including a 9-2 spurt capped by a 3-pointer from Douglas to take its first lead of the game — 100-99 — with about 2 1/2 minutes left.

Kobe Bryant led the Lakers with 39 points.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Drive to end lockout goes into overtime

**NHL.** Labour talks without Bettman and Fehr turn into marathon session

The latest round of NHL labour talks stretched well into the night.

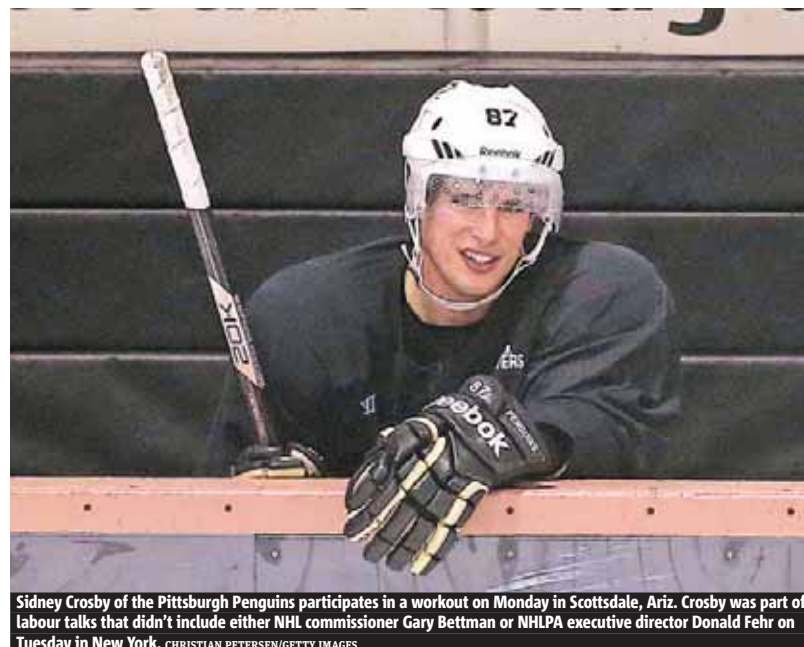
A group of 18 players and six league owners spent more than five hours in meetings on Tuesday afternoon — and they resumed talks at about 10 p.m. ET after taking a break for dinner.

The marathon session was accompanied by whispers of optimism, something that had previously been in short supply with the lockout into its 12th week. Penguins captain Sidney Crosby was among the players who sat across from the small cluster of owners, which included Pittsburgh's Ron Burkle, and those two were said to be strong voices in the room, according to sources.

Neither commissioner Gary Bettman nor NHLPA executive director Donald Fehr took part in the afternoon meetings, although both men were present at the midtown Manhattan hotel and held private sessions with their constituents.

It was hoped that an altered dynamic at the bargaining table might break the stalemate in talks. Bettman tabled the idea last week after the sides spent two unsuccessful days with U.S. federal mediators.

Four of the owners in attendance were taking part in



Sidney Crosby of the Pittsburgh Penguins participates in a workout on Monday in Scottsdale, Ariz. Crosby was part of labour talks that didn't include either NHL commissioner Gary Bettman or NHLPA executive director Donald Fehr on Tuesday in New York. CHRISTIAN PETERSEN/GETTY IMAGES

their first bargaining session — Burkle, Winnipeg's Mark Chipman, Toronto's Larry Tanenbaum and Tampa's Jeff Vinik — and were accompanied by Boston's Jeremy Jacobs and Calgary's Murray Edwards, both part of the NHL's negotiating committee.

The players in attendance represented a cross-section of the NHLPA's membership.

Stars like Crosby, Jonathan Toews, Ryan Miller and Brad Richards joined the likes of

Ron Hainsey, Mathieu Darche and Kevin Westgarth, who have been heavily involved throughout the summer.

There appeared to be a heightened sense of urgency around negotiations with the league's board of governors scheduled to gather on Wednesday and more cancellations expected by the end of the week. All regular-season games through Dec. 14, plus the Winter Classic and all-star game, have already been wiped off

the schedule.

Money remains the biggest issue for the sides to bridge. Even though both the league and union have proposed a 50-50 split of revenues, they remain separated on payments to be made outside the system to help ease the transition from the previous deal, which saw players receive 57 per cent. The NHL has offered \$211 million in deferred compensation while the union has asked for \$393 million. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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# The 2013 Jetta Hybrid



ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

## Engine

The powertrain consists of a unique 1.4-litre turbo-charged four-cylinder engine worth 150 horsepower and 184 pound-feet of torque. It's paired with a water-cooled electric motor rated at 27 horsepower and 114 pound-feet of torque. Electricity comes from a lithium-ion battery pack located behind the rear seat.



A 1.4 litre, turbo-charged engine

## 2013 Jetta Hybrid

- **Type.** Four-door, front-wheel-drive compact sedan
- **Engines (hp).** 1.4-litre DOHC I4, turbocharged (150) with 27-hp electric motor (170, net)
- **Transmission.** Seven-speed dual-clutch automated manual
- **Base price (incl. destination).** \$29,400

## Design

Physical modifications aimed at maximizing the Hybrid's fuel economy include a cold-air intake for the engine plus a special front air dam, side skirts and rear spoiler for the body. The underbody has been fitted with extra panels designed to further reduce air resistance and turbulence.

## Fuel economy

The (Direct Shift Gearbox) or DSG also features a sport mode that holds each gear for a longer duration when accelerating, but at the expense of fuel economy that in "normal" mode is estimated at 4.6 l/100 km city and 4.0 highway. That beats the Jetta TDI's 6.7/4.6 highway figures and rivals the slower Civic Hybrid's.

## Review. VW's hybrid shift is an economically sound one

**MALCOLM GUNN**  
Wheelbase Media

In a diesel-versus-hybrid comparison that usually pits Volkswagen against the rest of the world, did anyone really see this one coming? Volkswagen building a hybrid? One that beats its own diesel model in fuel economy and comes close in price? Talk about a shift. Talk about the 2013 Jetta Hybrid.

The Jetta's hybrid system generates 170 net horsepower and 184 pound-feet of torque. That's less than a Toyota Camry Hybrid or Ford Fusion Hybrid, but keep in mind that the Jetta is closer in size to the Honda Civic and its estimated 8.6-second zero-to-60-m.p.h (96 km/h) time trumps the Civic Hybrid by 1.5 seconds and the Jetta TDI by half a second.

Assisting the Jetta Hybrid in the performance department

is a seven-speed automated manual transmission (Direct Shift Gearbox, or DSG) that features rapid-fire gear changes. It can be left in automatic mode or the driver can go manually.

On the road, the Jetta's hybrid unit can briefly operate on electric power for up to two kilometres and at speeds up to 60 km/h in standard mode, or 70 km/h in E-Mode. However, anything more than a gentle nudge of the pedal will tell the gas engine to join in. The interior is standard Jetta fare, with the exception of a power meter that replaces the tachometer and displays when the Hybrid is in gas or electric mode.

Each model can come equipped with a touch-screen audio system, an energy flow display, a navigation system, a Fender-brand audio package and a rear-view camera, amongst other things. The Hybrid may not displace the cheaper Jetta TDI turbo-diesel as the fuel-saver's VW of choice, but it makes a sportier alternative to mainstream hybrids with their one-dimensional approach to cutting fuel consumption.



The sleek interior is a bonus



The Jetta's roomy trunk

## By comparison



**1** Toyota Prius  
Base price: \$27,500



**2** Honda Civic Hybrid  
Base price: \$26,500



**3** Kia Optima Hybrid  
Base price: \$32,100

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# L.A. show proves that cars are always greener (and shinier) on the other side



**AUTO PILOT**  
Mike Goetz  
drive@metronews.ca

Do you suffer from shiny object syndrome, or SOS as it's known in the self-help industry? Are

you pulled invisibly toward bright shiny objects, and then transfixed in their orbit, while you try to rationalize their purchase or theft? Then don't go, like I did last week, to the Los Angeles Auto Show. It's full of things you will want to steal or buy — even the so-called green

ones. The evolution of green vehicles coming in more and more attractive packages has happened over the last decade or so, after automakers realized that we consumers are drawn to green, so long as it is in a vehicle form that fits our emotional or practical needs, for whatever life

stage we're in at the moment.

For example, while small and utilitarian is the ultimate way to go green, the chances are slim that you're going to buy a smart for-two electric if you go to ski country every winter weekend with four kids and a smelly dog. On the flip side,

the chances are also slim you're going to shell out \$100,000-plus for a cool Fisker Karma hybrid when you're a freshman at U of Jagermeister. The talking heads during the automakers' press days at the L.A. show repeatedly mentioned that there is no silver bullet to green technology,

and that they'll have to make green advances on all fronts and on all types of vehicles, and that the vehicles themselves cannot "not deliver" their respective brand promises.

So, if I could, I would like to draw your attention to three L.A. debuts that illustrate this vision.



Santa Claus prepares to treat himself to an early present on hearing the news that a 2013 Jetta is now only \$168 a month. "I'm telling everyone — but not everyone believes in me," he commented.



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## Chevrolet Spark EV

Chevrolet is GM's go-to brand for targeting young hipsters and value-conscious elders. As Chevrolet's smallest car, the Spark is already a great urban mobility device, and the electrification of it makes it even more so. When it goes on sale next summer, for about \$32,500 US (the U.S. federal rebate of \$7,500 lowers the price to \$25,000), it will be GM's first all-electric passenger vehicle since the EV1 was controversially discontinued in 2003. Unfortunately, the small number of Spark EVs coming to Canada next year is strictly for fleet accounts.

Technical highlights: Lots of components carried over from Volt; First vehicle to use new SAE Combo DC Fast Charging protocol, enables Spark EV to charge to 80 per cent in 20 minutes; Two seven-inch LCD screens to better utilize smartphone infotainment, like navigation, satellite radio and Apple's Siri voice thing. On top of that is a Lithium ion battery pack and electric motor (designed and built by GM in the U.S.) which delivers 130 hp and 400 pound-feet of torque! It should be a hoot to drive. Expect speeds of around 80 km/h.

## Mercedes-Benz Ener-G-Force

The L.A. show hosted a design challenge, where automakers could envision a Highway Patrol Vehicle in 2025. Mercedes-Benz came up with the Ener-G-Force, which channels the vibe of a G Class off-roader circa 1979. There is, however, a twist. The G Force stores rainwater in the tanks on the roof, and transfers it to the "hydro-tech convertor," where it's turned into hydrogen for operating the fuel cells. "Swappable" battery packs are stored in the side skirts. There is an electric motor at each wheel to deliver four-wheel drive. A 360-degree topography scanner sends data to the suspension computer, which adjusts suspension parameters for maximum traction. It's a zero-emission vehicle with zero tolerance for citizen misbehaviour.



## BMW i8 Spyder

The BMW i8 Spyder shown in L.A. is definitely a concept, but production versions of both i8 coupes and convertibles are definitely coming sometime around the 2014-15 timeframe. Expect prices of more than

\$100,000 and top speeds of more than 150 mph, so they'll definitely be worthy of wearing the BMW badge. The "petrol" part of the plug-in hybrid concept is a three-cylinder turbo-diesel, expected to deliver about 70 mpg (3.36 L/100 km).







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2013 Dodge Grand Caravan Crew shown.<sup>5</sup>

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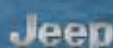
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# Turbochargers huff and puff their way to fuel efficiency

## Driving Force.

Just like its cousin the supercharger, it does the same thing while allowing automakers to use smaller engines

JILL  
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Your engine runs on gasoline, but before the fuel can be used, it must be mixed with air. That air is compressed by the pistons to produce power, but they can only do so much.

Automakers often add turbochargers or superchargers, which can coax more power out of a smaller engine without having to move up to a larger one.

"The strategy of downsizing and replacing engine displacement by charging led to large

increases in torque, weight savings and fuel efficiency," says Cort Nielsen, public relations manager for Audi Canada.

Although turbochargers and superchargers both do the same thing — pump more air into the engine — they differ in the way they run.

On a turbocharger, the engine's exhaust is routed through a turbine to make it spin. A supercharger is connected by a belt (or sometimes by gears) to the engine, which powers the unit.

Originally, these systems were all about power, and automakers used them to make their performance models even sportier. While that's still the case with some vehicles, turbochargers are increasingly used for fuel efficiency. Although they do use more fuel when they're working — when they push in more air, the engine must also burn more gasoline — they only provide a boost

when extra power is needed, such as during hard acceleration.

In the past, automakers might simply have used a larger engine, which could provide that power when needed, but which would use more fuel the rest of the time. A smaller turbocharged engine handles everyday driving chores while using much less fuel, but can still provide that power boost when the driver demands it.

Because the turbocharger's turbine has to "spool up," or start spinning faster when the driver accelerates, there can be a slight delay in power. Known as turbo lag, it was very noticeable in older engines, but newer units provide their power almost instantaneously. "With modern electronics, the former deficiencies are no longer present," Nielsen says.

"The use of new combustion methods is another key

## Did you know?

- **Fact.** Turbochargers and superchargers are known as forced induction systems because they force air into the engine. An engine without such a system draws in non-compressed air and is referred to as "naturally aspirated."



An Audi turbocharger. HANDOUT

topic in advanced development of engine charging technology, especially in efforts to increase charge pressure."

Whether an engine uses a turbocharger or supercharger depends on several factors, including where it will fit into the engine bay, and how easily its heat can be dissipated.

Superchargers also tend to be more expensive and are more likely to be used on higher-priced vehicles.

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**For those without a Metro, the forecast calls for "I dunno" with a slight chance of "huhhh?"**



Horoscopes

**♈ Aries**

**March 21 - April 20**  
Look ahead and make plans — the bigger the better. The planets are encouraging you to try out new ways of doing things and before the current week is over, you will have had a revelation of some kind.

**♉ Taurus**

**April 21 - May 21**  
What happens over the next 24 hours will convince you there can be no more looking back. It is the future that matters and the future begins now. Change your life by changing the way you think about it.

**♊ Gemini**

**May 22 - June 21**  
Why do you believe you are surrounded by enemies? Whatever the reason, it must not be allowed to stop you from taking risks. Over the next few days, if you bet against the odds, you might just win big.

**♋ Cancer**

**June 22 - July 23**  
What is the one thing you are really good at? Everyone has a talent of some sort and if you identify yours and do something with it, you will soon enjoy amazing success. Do what comes naturally and do it brilliantly.

**♌ Leo**

**July 24 - Aug. 23**  
Be brave and take that big gamble you have been thinking of. There are, of course, no guarantees but life is supposed to be fun and one of the most fun things you can do is to reach beyond your usual limits.

**♍ Virgo**

**Aug. 24 - Sept. 23**  
A long-term problem will work itself out to your complete satisfaction today and to say you will be surprised is a big understatement. Don't think about it too much, just make the most of it.

**♎ Libra**

**Sept. 24 - Oct. 23**  
It seems you have been working at cross purposes with a friend, but the good news is you can easily set things straight. Identify what each of you is trying to accomplish then resolve to help one another.

**♏ Scorpio**

**Oct. 24 - Nov. 22**  
Someone new will come into your life today and it could be the start of a great friendship. You may be as different as chalk is from cheese but for some reason you will click. It could be you are soul mates.

**♐ Sagittarius**

**Nov. 23 - Dec. 21**  
Old-fashioned ideas and habitual routines tend to bore you and that's good because success will come through trying new things. Don't just move with the times, move ahead of the times. Shake up the status quo.

**♑ Capricorn**

**Dec. 22 - Jan. 20**  
Whatever it is you get up to next it is sure to change the way other people look at you, and maybe even the way you look at yourself. Strive to be different, not just today but every day from now on.

**♒ Aquarius**

**Jan. 21 - Feb. 19**  
You will have plenty to say for yourself today but there is a danger you will say too much and turn others against you. That may not worry you much now but it will later on when you need their assistance.

**♓ Pisces**

**Feb. 20 - March 20**  
Today's events will surprise you, especially if you are the kind of Pisces who thinks in terms of black and white or good and bad. Try not to be so conservative in your opinions. Strive to see the bigger picture.  
**SALLY BROMPTON**

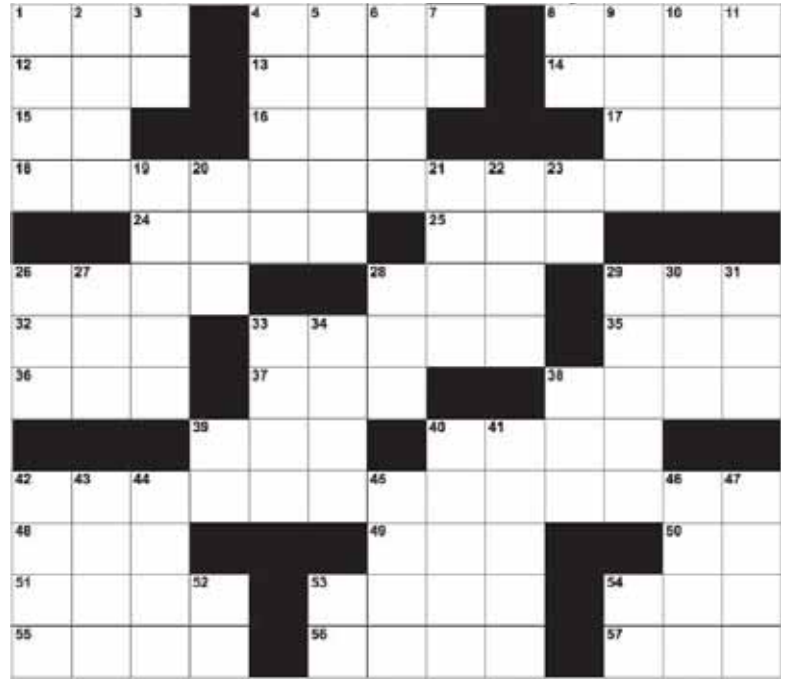
Crossword

Across

- Auger
- Skin
- Star —: Deep Space Nine
- Stage of sleep (abbr.)
- Vicinity
- Peacekeeping grp.
- Battery sz.
- Common suffix
- "Smoking or —?"
- Problem solving technique
- Rose holder
- Urn
- Part of UCLA
- Catty
- de Janeiro
- Runaway singer Shannon
- Vocalized pauses
- Yield
- Jay-Z's genre
- Understand
- Flee from the law
- Balsam and Evergreen
- Charlottetown province (abbr.)
- Use the phone
- Genuinely real
- GPS heading (abbr.)
- NHL legend Bobby
- First two vowels in a sequence
- Orange peel
- Only one time
- Rap sheet abbreviation
- Director Preminger
- Meadows
- Berlin article

Down

- Spirited horse
- "What Not to —"
- Letters between K and N
- Growing —
- Greeted the day
- Monthly expense



- Apiece (abbr.)
- Actress who starred in Father Dowling Mysteries (init.)
- Indian Queen
- British prep school.
- "King —"
- Cease
- Author Fleming
- Ken or Lena
- Tooth anchor
- Form of address

- "Sleepless in Seattle" actress Ryan
- Sooner than, poetically
- Zodiac symbol
- Boring tool
- Corn unit
- CD's predecessor
- Jane Lynch drama
- Precipitation
- Tampa state
- Chemistry measure (abbr.)

- Time frame
- Farm units
- Flying (prefix)
- Condo, e.g.
- Camping necessity
- Pitch
- Trout habitat
- Part of a decade
- "— the Right Thing"
- Chemical suffix
- Billboard use

Yesterday's Crossword



What's online

See today's answers  
metronews.ca/  
answers.



Sudoku

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku

6	7	9	3	4	2	8	5	1
1	4	2	6	7	5	9	3	8
3	5	8	9	6	1	4	2	7
5	3	1	2	8	4	7	6	9
8	9	7	5	1	6	2	4	3
2	6	4	7	9	3	1	8	5
7	8	6	4	5	9	3	1	2
9	2	5	1	3	8	6	7	4
4	1	3	6	2	7	5	9	8

8		3		9				
9	3					6	5	
	7			2		8		
	5		6	7				1
		7				6		
6				5	4		2	
		9		8			1	
7	6						8	4
			1	3				6

Today

10°/-4°

Rain

80%

Thursday

-1°/-5°

Variable

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